

AMENDMENT

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended): A high density porous composition comprising:  
up to about 100% by weight silica wherein the silica comprises [up to] from  
about 50% to about 100% by weight cristobalite; and  
up to about 60% by weight alumina; wherein the composition has a density of at least about  
[3.5] 12 pounds per cubic foot, a mean pore diameter of about 50 microns to about 600  
microns, at least about 50% of the exposed surface area is silicon dioxide, [and] said surface  
[has been] modified by a chemical reaction to increase [the] its hydrophilicity or  
hydrophobicity.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising an additional  
metal oxide.
4. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising tantalum oxide or  
zirconium oxide.
5. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising carbon fiber.
6. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising a drug.
7. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising silica gel.
8. (Currently Amended): The composition of claim 1, wherein the density is at  
least about [8] 24 pounds per cubic foot (128 kg/m<sup>3</sup>).
9. (Currently Amended): The composition of claim 1, wherein the density is at  
least about [12] 48 pounds per cubic foot (192 kg/m<sup>3</sup>).

10. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the density is at least about 36 pounds per cubic foot (577 kg/m<sup>3</sup>).

11. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the density is at least about 64 pounds per cubic foot (1025 kg/m<sup>3</sup>).

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12. – 23. (Canceled):

24. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the exposed surface is at least about 75% silicon dioxide.

25. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the exposed surface is at least about 95% silicon dioxide.

26. (Canceled).

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